

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARKS OFFICE

APPLICANT: Cox et al.

FOR: SCRUBBING SYSTEMS AND METHODS
FOR COAL FIRED COMBUSTION
UNITS

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 21955

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Emily Meekham
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PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R 1.102(c) and MPEP Sec.708.02(V), applicant hereby petitions to make this patent application special for advancement of examination based on the fact that the invention will materially enhance the quality of the environment. Specifically, the subject invention involves the removal of toxic contaminants from flue gas of coal-fired units. Coal accounts for over 50% of all electricity produced in the United States. Increasing environmental controls and the substantial available reserves of coal make technologies which substantially decrease harmful emissions from coal-fired units a prime example of subject matter which will "materially enhance the quality of the environment." The subject invention is directed toward improving air quality by substantially reducing emissions to the atmosphere from coal-fired sources.

The subject invention is well suited for use in conjunction with any number of coal-fired units such as power generation or other industries which utilize coal as a source of heat. Consequently the subject invention offers great potential for significant improvement of air quality.

Dated this 20th day of October, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



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